

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DACCA 01194 081030Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 EB-08 IO-13 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 /045 W

-----081032Z 069855 /11

R 080857Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3771
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DACCA 1194

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OCON, SENV, PFOR, BG, IN, UN
SUBJECT: ADMIRAL KHAN ON FARAKKA

REF: A. DACCA 1174 (NOTAL) B. NEW DELHI 3301 (NOTAL)

1. SPEAKING TO NEWSMEN MARCH 7 PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR THE MAR DEL PLATA CONFERENCE, REAR ADMIRAL KHAN, DEPUTY CHIEF MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATOR, DECLARED THAT BANGLADESH WOULD "NEVER COMPROMISE" ON THE GANGES WATER PROBLEM AND WOULD CONTINUE ALL EFFORTS "FOR GETTING OUR SHARE IN THE WATER OF THE INTERNATIONAL RIVER."

2. POINTING OUT THAT THE PRESENT FLOW OF 30,000 CUSECS WAS THE LOWEST RECORDED LOW IN HISTROY, KHAN SAID THAT "NO AMOUNT OF COUNTER MEASURES COULD REPLACE THE DAMAGE DONE BY THE WATER SHORTAGE. WHATEVER WE DO WITHIN THE COUNTRY CANNOT COUNTER THE PROBLEM -- WE CANNOT FIGHT NATURE." HE TOLD A QUESTIONER THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO DEVELOPMENT TOWARD REACHING A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM SINCE THE LAST DELHI MEETING. "OUR PROPOSAL IS LEFT IN NEW DELHI" AND
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INSTEAD OF RESPONDING, INDIA " WAS MAKING CONFUSING STATEMENTS AND QUOTING MISLEADING FIGURES IN WORLD CAPITALS." TO COUNTER THIS INDIAN POSTURE, KHAN DECLARED THAT BANGLADEHS WOULD "TELL EVERYONE ABOUT THE ADVERSE EFFECT OF WITHDRAWAL OF GANGES WATER WITHOUT ANY FEAR OR FAVOR."

3. COMMENT: KHAN'S REMARKS, WHILE TYPICAL OF PREVIOUS

RHETORIC ON THE SUBJECT NEVERTHELESS APPEARS MORE STRIDENT
AND FORCEFUL THAN ANYTHING WE HAVE SEEN SINCE THE FAILURE OF
THE DELHI TALKS IN JANUARY. IT IS CLEAR THAT THE BDG DOES
NOT INTEND TO LET ANY OPPORTUNITY ESCAPE TO DRAW
INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION TO THE ISSUE AND TO MAKE IT CLEAR
TO ALL WHO WILL LISTEN THAT INDIA IS BEING "INTRANSIGENT".
AS NOTED REFTEL (A) BANGLADESH DELEGATION IS LARGE. THE
REMARKS BY KHAN MAY BE JUST A WARM-UP FOR THE CONFERENCE.
MASTERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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